



1714

Patent  
Docket No.: P01031US1A  
IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re Application of:

Todd M. Baranek

Serial No.: 09/840,288

Filed: April 23, 2001

For: High Density Metal Oxide Fillers in  
Rubber Compounds

Group Art Unit: 1714

Examiner: Paul R. Michl

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#4832  
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**Amendments and Remarks**

Assistant Commissioner for Patents  
Washington, D.C. 20231

Dear Sir:

In response to the Office Action dated May 23, 2002, Applicants submit remarks and request the following amendments:

**In the Claims:**

Please cancel claims 9, 10 and 19.

Please amend claims 6, 12, 13, 18 and 20 as follows:

6. (Amended) A rubber compound, comprising:

at least one elastomer containing a natural or synthetic rubber, and  
at least one high density metal oxide filler,

wherein the metal oxide filler is selected from the group consisting of  $M_n(O)_{2n}$ ,  $M_n(O)_{3n/2}$ ,  $(M_1)_n(M_2)_n(O)_{2n}$ , and combinations thereof, where M is a metal selected from Groups IVA, VA, IB, VIB, VIIB and VIIIB metals (with  $M_1$  being different from  $M_2$ ), O is oxygen, and n is the valence of the metal, and  
wherein the metal oxide filler has a density of greater than 5.7 g/cm<sup>3</sup>.

12. (Amended) The rubber compound of Claim [10] 6 wherein the amount of metal oxide within the rubber compound ranges from about 5 to about 80 phr.

13. (Amended) The rubber compound of Claim [10] 6, wherein the high density metal oxide filler has a density of greater than about 8 g/cm<sup>3</sup>.

18. (Amended) A method of preparing the rubber compound of Claim 6, comprising the step of mixing at least one natural or synthetic rubber with at least one

I hereby certify that this correspondence is being deposited with the United States Postal Service as First Class Mail in an envelope addressed to: Assistant Commissioner for Patents; Washington, D.C. 20231 on:

23 August 2002  
Date

Signed

*Meredith E. Palmer*  
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